

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starts on page 9, line 10 with the following amended paragraph:

Furthermore, if the invention is implemented together with other improvements as described in concurrently filed, co-pending Application No. U.S. Patent Application No. 09/703,361 (~~Att. Dkt. No. SUN1P809/P5500~~), entitled "IMPROVED FRAMEWORKS FOR INVOKING METHODS IN VIRTUAL MACHINES", the constant pool may not even need to be copied into the virtual machine's in order to invoke methods. Thus, the use of the invention in conjunction with the improved techniques provided as described in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/703,361 (~~Att. Dkt. No. SUN1P809/P5500~~), entitled "IMPROVED FRAMEWORKS FOR INVOKING METHODS IN VIRTUAL MACHINES" has the potential in many circumstances to even further improve the performance of the virtual machines.

Please replace the paragraph starts on page 13, line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

On the other hand, if it is determined at operation 502 that the Java command is not a load constant command, the loading method 500 proceeds to operation 506 where a determination is made as to whether the Java command is an invoke method command. If it is determined at operation 506 that the Java command is an invoke method command, the loading method 500 proceeds to operation 508 where the invoke method command is processed in accordance with another aspect of the invention. In a preferred embodiment, the invoke method command is processed to create a reference cell which provides the information necessary to invoke the method at run time. For example, such processing can be performed as illustrated in co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/703,361 (~~Att. Dkt. No. SUN1P809/P5500~~), entitled "IMPROVED FRAMEWORKS FOR INVOKING METHODS IN VIRTUAL MACHINES". Accordingly, in the described embodiment, the address of the reference cell corresponding to the invoke method command is written into the data stream.